

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 INT-08

DRC-01 /147 W

----- 064680

R 061400Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2688

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PINS AO

SUBJECT: LABOR UNREST - LUANDA STEVEDORES AND OIL WORKERS

1. SOME MINOR LABOR UNREST AND UNION DEMANDS CONTINUE, WITHOUT SO FAR UPSETTING LUANDA'S ROUTINE INORDINATELY. TWO GROUPS WORTH WATCHING, STEVEDORES AND OIL COMPANY WORKERS.

2. STEVEDORES SINCE MAY 31 HAVE REFUSED TO WORK MORE THAN 8 HOUR DAY (7-NOON; 2-5 PM) MON. - SAT. PREVIOUSLY WORKED 23 HOURS, SEVEN DAYS PER WEEK. UNDERSTAND NEGOTIATIONS ON WAGES PROCEEDING IN ORDERLY FASHION (ALTHOUGH WORKERS DEMANDING EQUAL PAY TO THAT RECEIVED BY LOURENCO MARQUES COUNTERPARTS, WHICH MORE THAN DOUBLE GOING WAGE HERE). REDUCED WORK DAY, HOWEVER, MAY SOON CREATE IMPOSSIBLE PORT CONGESTION.

3. OIL WORKERS, ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY SOURCES, ARE NOW BEING ORGANIZED BY PROFESSIONAL UNION TYPES ("COMMUNISTS") WHO HAVE ARRIVED FROM PORTUGAL. WHEREAS FIRST WAVE OF DEMANDS SHORTLY AFTER COUP WERE REASONABLY MODEST (BETTER WAGES, BETTER LUNCHES, PAID TRANSPORTATION), COMPANIES NOW FACE LENGTHENING LIST OF

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"REINVINDICACOES" WHICH COULD CRIPPLE THEIR OPERATIONS. SAMPLE

DEMANDS: FULL MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEE AND ALL HIS DEPENDENTS, FREE HOUSING AND MEALS, PAID VACATIONS, PRIVATE SCHOOLING. ANGOL (BUT NOT FOREIGN FIRMS) HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO REMOVE ALL "SIGNS OF RACISM" IN PERSONNEL POLICIES. OTHERWISE, DEMANDS (BEING PRESENTED PIECEMEAL TO COMPANIES) APPEAR IDENTICAL.

4. OIL COMPANIES HAVE HAD SEVERAL INCONCLUSIVE MEETINGS WITH CARETAKER GOVERNMENT TO SEEK LATTER'S SUPPORT, WITHOUT ANY SUCCESS. ONLY REASSURANCE RECEIVED SO FAR IS THAT GOVERNMENT BELIEVES MILITARY WOULD NOT ALLOW PUMP OPERATORS TO CLOSE DOWN IN EVENT OF ATTEMPTED STRIKE, NOR WOULD PETROANGOL REFINERY BE ALLOWED TO CEASE PRODUCTION.

5. AS WITH EVERYTHING ELSE HERE LABOR UNREST HAS BEEN SLOW TO EMERGE, WHICH IS BLESSING FOR ANGOLA IN VIEW CONTINUING ABSENCE (6 WEEKS) OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA.
BRIGGS

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